

U.S.S.N. 09/768,155

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**In the Claims**

1. (amended) A method for treating a lupus patient characterized by the presence of anti-dsDNA antibodies comprising administering to the patient single chain anti-idiotypic antibody fragments immunoreactive with anti-dsDNA antibodies, wherein the antibody fragments prevent the anti-dsDNA antibodies from interfering with protein synthesis.
2. (amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the antibody fragments are derived from human antibodies.
3. (amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the antibody fragments are conjugated to a carrier molecule or is a fusion protein.
4. cancelled.
5. (amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the antibody fragment is derived from an anti-idiotypic antibody immunoreactive with anti-dsDNA antibody.
6. (original) The method of claim 5 wherein the antibody is administered in a dosage effective to kill anti-dsDNA antibody producing cells.
7. (original) The method of claim 5 wherein the antibody is administered in a dosage effective to decrease the amount of anti-dsDNA antibody levels in the patient.
8. (currently amended) A therapeutic composition in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier for administration to a human patient having anti-dsDNA antibodies comprising an ~~effective amount of~~ single chain anti-idiotypic antibody fragments immunoreactive with anti-

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dsDNA human antibodies isolated from SLE patients, wherein the antibody fragments prevent the anti-dsDNA antibodies from interfering with protein synthesis.

9. (twice amended) The composition of claim 8 wherein the anti-idiotypic antibody fragments are derived from human antibody.
10. (twice amended) The composition of claim 8 wherein the anti-idiotypic antibody fragments are conjugated to a carrier molecule or is a fusion protein.
11. (cancelled)
12. (twice amended) The composition of claim 8 wherein the composition ~~is~~ comprises an anti-idiotypic antibody fragment derived from an anti-idiotypic antibody immunoreactive with anti-dsDNA antibody.
13. (amended) The composition of claim 12 wherein the anti-idiotypic antibody is administered in a dosage effective to kill anti-dsDNA antibody producing cells.
14. (amended) The composition of claim 12 wherein the anti-idiotypic antibody is administered in a dosage effective to decrease the amount of anti-dsDNA antibody levels in the patient.
15. (new) The composition of claim 8 wherein the anti-idiotypic antibody is a single-chain Fv fragment.